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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BRUSSE 11548 121724Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00
EB-08 EA-10 FRB-03 INR-10 NEA-11 NSAE-00 ICA-11
OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00
OMB-01 SS-15 /111 W
----------033761 121926Z /75
R 121720Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7208
INFO ALL EC CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 11548

USEEC

PARIS ALSO FOR USOECD

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EEC, BU, EEWT
SUBJ: EC COMMISSION TALKS WITH BULGARIA

REF: (A) BRUSSELS 11406 (B) 77 BRUSSELS 13113(NOTAL)

1. EC COMMISSION OFFICIAL (FOUERE) WHO TOOK PART IN LAST WEEK'S TALKS WITH BULGARIAN DELEGATION (REF A) HAS TOLD US THAT BULGARIANS INFORMED COMMISSION JUNE 9 THAT THEY CONFIDENTIAL

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WOULD NOT TAKE PART IN SCHEDULED STEEL TALKS THAT EVENING. FOUERE SAID THAT COMMISSION HAD EARLIER THAT DAY NOTIFIED BULGARIANS THAT THEIR REQUEST FOR COMMUNITY GSP TREATMENT (REF B) HAD BEEN CONSIDERED, BUT THAT THE COMMISSION COULD TAKE NO ACTION ON THE REQUEST WITHOUT FURTHER STUDY. FOUERE SAID THAT BULGARIANS WERE OBVIOUSLY DISPLEASED BUT SOUGHT INSTRUCTIONS FROM SOFIA BEFORE INFORMING COMMISSION

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OF CANCELLATION OF STEEL TALKS. FOUERE COMMENTED THAT BULGARIAN DELEGATION MEMBERS WERE "CLEARLY VERY EMBARRASSED" ABOUT SOFIA'S DECISION TO SUSPEND TALKS.

2. FOUERE SAID THAT COMMISSION IS NOT OVERLY CONCERNED BY BULGARIAN ACTION, WHICH HE TERMED UNDERSTANDABLE IN VIEW OF EVIDENTLY STRONG GOB INTEREST IN COMMUNITY GSP. HE SAID THAT COMMISSION HAS MADE CLEAR THAT ANY FAVORABLE DECISION ON GSP TREATMENT WILL DEPEND ON AVAILABILITY OF ADEQUATE STATISTICS PROVING THAT BULGARIAN REQUEST MEETS ALL EC CRITERIA FOR GRANTING SUCH TREATMENT. HE SAID COMMISSION ALSO EMPHASIZED NEED FOR BULGARIA TO REACH STEEL AGREEMENT WITH COMMUNITY THIS MONTH OR FACE CUTOFF FROM EC STEEL MARKET.

3. FOUERE ADDED THAT, DESPITE BULGARIAN DISPLEASURE OVER GSP, COMMISSION STILL HOPES THAT EXPERTS LEVEL TALKS CAN BE HELD THIS COMING FALL (PARA 2, REF A). HINTON

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NNN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Reason:
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Litigation History:
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